17

E. P. THOMPSON.

Dec. 20-1902

TOWN OF BELMONT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1,

1887.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF BELMONT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1887.

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.:
TIMES JOB PRINT.
1887.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Selectmen and Citizens of Belmont:

With this you have my report of receipts and expenditures as treasurer of said town for the year ending March 1, 1887.

D. W. GALE, *Treasurer.*

1886.				Dr.
March	2.	To cash on hand,		$675.50
April	23.	cash city Concord, aid to M. D. French,		37.70
May	8.	Jennie M. Gannons, note renewed to M. Jennie Small,		32.66
June	3.	William H. Shepard, note,		200.00
	15.	cash city Concord, aid to M. D. French,		30.50
July	1.	Calvin Shepard, note,		575.00
	28.	Frank P. Grant, collector 1886,		235.00
Aug.	13.	" " "		530.00
	21.	cash city Concord, aid to M. D. French,		36.23
Sept.	21.	F. P. Grant, collector 1886,		1,315.00
Oct.	14.	" " "		1,135.00
	16.	selectmen cash tendered to D. P. Webster, 1885,		49.75
		selectmen, old lumber sold,		2.00
Nov.	2.	H. Wadleigh, note renewed,		88.21
		F. P. Grant, collector 1886,		640.00
Dec.	23.	" " "		1,900.00
1887.				
Jan.	8.	state R. R. tax, 1886,	142.23	
		savings-bank tax 1886,	1,694.52	
		literary fund, 1886,	129.92	
				1,966.67
		city Concord, aid M. D. French,		120.60
	14.	F. K. Johnson, town-clerk, licenses pool table to May 1, 1887,		2.83
	20.	F. P. Grant, collector 1886,		550.00
Feb.	1.	" " "		1,600.00
	14.	" " "		425.00
	19.	" " "		300.00

Feb. 22.	To F. P. Grant, collector 1886,		$700.00
24.	" " "		590.00
25.	" balance of tax 1886,		158.10
	" unworked highway 1885,		342.88
			$14,238.63

RECAPITULATION.

Orders paid for highways and bridges 1886 to February 19, 1887,	$2,782.16
abatements,	53.19
town officers,	564.40
current expenses,	320.92
board of education, for schooling,	1,169.41
support of poor,	306.27
town notes paid,	5,155.90
damage to sheep by dogs,	14.00
Appropriation Decoration Day,	25.00
State tax,	1,140.00
County tax,	1,620.06
Cash on hand,	1,087.32
	$14,238.63

ORDERS PAID FOR HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

All highway bills have been paid to February 19, 1887.

1886.			
March	3.	J. S. Kimball, highway 1884–'85,	$4.22
	22.	Thomas Britton, highway, amount on warrant from Jan. 1, 1885, to Mar. 20, 1886,	29.82
April	10.	C. A. Hackett, highway summer and fall 1885,	8.85
		R. P. Willard, highway, spring 1886,	4.50
	22.	G. H. Sanborn, winter 1885–'86,	57.21
	27.	W. H. Wright, highway, Jan. 13 to Apr. 23, 1886,	78.39
		N. Chase, highway, winter 1885–'86,	12.80
May	8.	Geo. C. Bryant, highway, winter and spring 1886,	1.80
		H. H. Lamprey, highway, 1885–'86,	26.71
		S. C. Sewell, highway, winter 1886,	1.40
		F. P. Bennett, highway, winter and spring 1886,	13.15
		R. L. Farrar, highway, spring 1886,	14.00
	29.	R. P. Willard, highway, 1885, spring 1886,	16.86

1886.			
June	1.	C. E. Bennett, highway, winter 1885–'86,	$6.33
	14.	S. B. Knowles, highway, spring 1886,	2.00
	15.	C. E. Pulsifer, highway, winter and spring 1886,	6.54
		A. J. Small, highway, spring 1886,	5.95
	21.	M. O. Seavey, highway, winter 1885–'86,	1.20
		T. L. Fuller, lumber for bridge,	27.13
	30.	J. A. James, lumber for bridge,	43.15
July	2.	Thomas Britton, highway, spring 1886,	4.28
	6.	W. C. Wells, highway, 1885,	50.62
	7.	T. L. Fuller, putting in stone bridge,	52.18
		M. H. Philbrick, highway, 1885,	9.92
		A. S. Ladd, highway, 1885–'86,	3.04
		Eben Tuttle, highway, spring 1886,	6.60
		F. S. Kilborn, highway, 1885,	3.58
		D. F. Grant, highway, winter 1885–'86,	10.47
		O. Randlett, " " "	2.37
		Eben Tuttle, highway, cash paid winter 1885–'86,	10.00
	20.	C. E. Moody, highway, summer '85 and winter 1885–'86,	13.04
		I. C. Akeley, highway, spring 1886,	11.82
		D. D. Maxfield, highway, winter 1885–'86,	5.11
		C. S. Sawyer, highway, spring 1886,	1.20
		J. A. Ladd, " " "	4.99
	28.	E. N. Hawkins, highway, winter 1885–'86,	8.68
Aug.	13.	Green Chase, highway, summer 1886,	6.45
	23.	T. L. Fuller, labor on water-course,	5.50
Oct.	1.	F. P. Bennett, highway, summer 1886,	110.10
	7.	J. T. Dudley, " " "	16.19
	9.	R. P. Willard, " " "	97.14
	14.	N. Chase, " " "	21.00
		P. Hall, labor on bridge,	52.05
		P. Hall, highway, summer 1885 and winter of 1885–'86,	29.25
	15.	R. G. Hoyt, highway, summer and fall 1886,	144.34
		R. G. Hoyt, cash paid D. W. Judkins for bridge plank,	18.00
		R. G. Hoyt, cash paid E. H. Bryant for lumber and plank,	50.00
	16.	A. G. Cook, bridge plank,	12.00
		A. M. Sanborn, highway, summer 1886,	25.43
Nov.	1.	A. A. Lamprey, " "	50.63
		S. B. Knowles, " "	41.25
		G. W. Elkins, " "	48.64
	2.	J. W. Farrar, " "	56.55

1886.

Nov.	2.	C. E. Pulsifer, highway, summer 1886,	$24.07
		R. L. Farrar, " "	37.00
		A. H. Lamprey, " "	37.53
		C. E. Small, " "	33.22
		Geo. H. Sanborn, " "	47.95
	3.	Sargent & Hall, boards for bridge rail,	2.04
	8.	I. S. Thompson, highway, winter 1885–'86, summer 1886,	36.45
	11.	Thomas J. Folsom, highway, summer 1886,	36.20
	15.	A. L. West, blacksmith work on bridge,	4.64
	18.	J. A. Ladd, highway, summer 1886,	32.15
	23.	D. W. Judkins, bridge plank,	6.82
	29.	D. D. Maxfield, highway, summer 1886,	23.50
	30.	H. B. Holman, " " "	39.33
Dec.	3.	R. P. Willard, cash paid C. E. Hunkins for stone,	3.00
	4.	S. N. Jewett, highway, summer 1886,	16.05
	18.	Solon F. Hill, " "	30.33
	23.	M. H. Philbrick, " "	71.05
		A. J. Small, " "	53.38
		E. N. Hawkins, " "	57.64
	27.	Geo. T. Folsom, " "	51.89
		I. C. Akeley, " "	46.37
		C. W. Whicher, " "	3.25

1887.

Jan.	8.	A. S. Ladd, " "	63.87
		L. D. Kilborn, " "	34.75
		F. S. Kilborn, " "	38.95
		J. L. Allen, labor on bridge,	.75
		B. W. Brown, bridge plank,	31.55
	11.	C. S. Sawyer, highway, summer 1886,	32.25
	20.	Geo. R. Smith, lumber for bridge,	8.90
		C. E. Pulsifer, labor on Moulton hill,	14.00
	22.	Nathan Chase, highway, summer 1886,	5.25
		Geo. C. Bryant, " "	30.70
Feb.	1.	Eben Tuttle, " "	62.00
		Geo. W. Plumer, highway, fall 1886,	4.80
	12.	J. L. Allen, highway, 1885–'86,	5.00
	22.	R. Sanborn, highway, winter 1886–'87,	57.21
		I. Bartlett, " "	3.25
		M. A. Young, " "	10.52
	24.	J. W. Farrar, " "	28.93
		T. J. Folsom, " "	11.03
		S. N. Jewett, " "	4.05
		N. Chase, " "	9.93
		A. H. Lamprey, " "	14.55
		C. E. Pulsifer, " "	4.87

1887.

Feb. 24.	A. J. Small, highway, winter 1886–'87,		$13.65
	F. S. Kilborn,	" "	18.74
	J. T. Dudley,	" "	2.25
	H. B. Holman,	" "	7.88
	F. P. Bennett,	" "	6.38
	M. H. Philbrick,	" "	16.35
	A. S. Ladd,	" "	18.63
	Geo. W. Elkins,	" "	10.58
	S. F. Hill,	" "	10.78
	A. M. Sanborn,	" "	13.42
	A. A. Lamprey,	" "	16.40
	J. Adams, highway, spring 1886,		3.00
	R. G. Hoyt, winter of 1886–'87, setting street lamp-posts,		20.16
	L. D. Kilborn, highway, winter 1886–'87,		11.45
	R. L. Farrar,	" "	13.50
25.	P. Hall,	" "	7.10
	S. B. Knowles,	" "	6.47
	Geo. T. Folsom,	" "	19.16
	D. D. Maxfield,	" "	10.50
	C. S. Sawyer,	" "	4.15
	J. A. Ladd.	" "	6.83
	I. C. Akeley,	" "	9.25
	R. P. Willard,	" "	6.08
	E. N. Hawkins,	" "	8.95
	C. E. Small,	" "	5.10
			$2,782.16

ORDERS PAID FOR ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

1886.

March 13.	J. S. Weymouth, horse lost,		$1.45
Nov. 11.	H. M. Downing, abatement of highway tax 1886,		2.50
	H. M. Downing, abatement of highway winter tax 1886,		1.00

1887.

Feb. 25.	T. P. Grant, collector, abatement of taxes against sundry persons for year 1886,		47.74
	George W. Plumer, cow lost,		.50
			$53.19

ORDERS PAID TOWN OFFICERS FOR SERVICES.

1886.

April 23.	S. N. Jewett, selectman in part,	$30.00
June 15.	Pike Davis, "	25.00
July 2.	S. N. Jewett, "	27.00
Aug. 21.	F. K. Johnson, town-clerk in part,	17.50
Sept. 25.	S. N. Jewett, selectman in part,	12.00
Nov. 11.	Pike Davis, "	50.00
1887.		
Feb. 24.	Dr. F. L. Gerald, member of school board,	30.00
	J. Plumer, " "	47.00
	J. M. Sargent, " "	46.90
	F. K. Johnson, town-clerk in full,	17.50
	F. P. Grant, collecting taxes 1886,	90.00
	S. N. Jewett, selectman in part,	24.00
	D. W. Gale, town treasurer in full,	30.00
25.	S. N. Jewett, selectman in full,	4.00
	Pike Davis, "	28.50
	Wm. H. Shepard, "	85.00
		$564.40

ORDERS PAID FOR CURRENT EXPENSES.

1886.

March 2.	F. A. Randlett, auditor,	$4.00
	" water tub,	3.00
3.	A. C. Morrison, water tub,	3.00
	E. F. Hall, police, Dec., 1885, Jan. and Feb., 1886,	9.00
8.	F. M. Shackford, printing town reports,	22.00
	C. W. Knowles, damage to self and horse on highway, Oct. 8, 1884,	10.00
	Geo. E. Fifield, damage to self on highway Oct. 8, 1884,	5.00
9.	N. S. Piper, water tub and highway,	3.90
13.	J. C. Pearson, bolts and railing,	2.00
22.	R. L. Farrar, damage to sleigh and harness,	8.50
April 17.	J. L. Cate, damage to self on highway April 8, 1886,	13.50
23.	Dr. H. C. Wells, damage on highway spring 1886,	10.00
	Solon F. Hill, moderator,	4.00
May 3.	E. F. Hall, police March and April, 1886,	6.00
8.	A. H Lamprey, supervisor, Feb. and March, 1886,	4.00
	Wm. H. Shepard, blank books,	4.29

1886.

June	1.	B. J. Cate, error in tax, 1886,	$5.00
	15.	Pike Davis, recording inventory,	5.00
July	7.	C. B. Gill, cash paid for council in regard to collecting tax,	5.08
		E. F. Hall, police May and June, 1886,	6.00
	16.	C. C. Clark, police to July 16, 1886,	5.00
Sept.	4.	E. F. Hall, police July and August, 1886,	6.00
Nov.	2.	A. H. Lamprey, supervisor in full,	4.00
	3.	E. F. Hall, police Sept. and Oct., 1886,	6.00
	30.	J. Plumer, water tub to Nov. 1, 1886,	3.00
Dec.	24.	E. P. Thompson, moderator and legal services,	5.00
	27.	George T. Folsom, damage to sleigh, spring of 1886,	3.00

1887.

Jan.	6.	Dr. S. A. Merrill, return births and deaths,	5.50
		E. F. Hall, police Nov. and Dec., 1886,	6.00
	7.	C. C. Clark, special police,	4.00
	8.	J. R. Champlin, street lanterns,	14.50
		Pike Davis, lamp-posts and expenses to Concord,	3.05
		E. C. Eastman, return births and deaths,	5.50
Jan.	25.	H. P. B. Currier, services as supervisor,	10.00
Feb.	1.	Eben Tuttle, water tub to Jan. 1, 1887,	3.00
		N. D. Garmon, water tub one year,	3.00
		C. A. Hackett, supervisor to Feb. 1, 1887,	11.00
	22.	A. C. Morrison, water tub to March 1, 1887,	3.00
		S. A. Felch, water tub to March 1, 1887,	3.00
		Mrs. Sam'l Bickford, water tub to Jan. 15, 1887,	3.50
		Ira Mooney, water tub to March 1, 1887,	3.00
		Ira Mooney, office rent to March 1, 1887,	20.00
	24.	F. K. Johnson, recording births, deaths, marriages, paid for postage, &c.,	8.35
		F. P. Grant, printing and making out tax bills,	6.25
		H. M. Grant, use of hall to March 1, 1887,	30.00
		J. L. Dalton, water tub to March 1, 1887,	2.00
		D. W. Gale, cash paid out and extra labor as treasurer,	8.50
	25.	Dr. G. H. Ingalls, return of births and deaths,	2.50
			$320.92

PAID BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SCHOOLING.

1886.		
July 6.	J. M. Sargent,	$289.39
	F. L. Gerald,	245.00
Nov. 29.	J. M. Sargent,	432.25
Dec. 18.	F. L. Gerald,	60.00
1887.		
Jan. 25.	F. L. Gerald, balance of money appropriated for 1886,	123.47
	Also, balance due District No. 11, 1885,	19.30
		$1,169.41

ORDERS PAID FOR SUPPORT OF POOR.

1886.		
April 23.	Geo. R. Smith, aid to M. D. French,	$37.70
June 15.	" " " "	30.50
Aug. 21.	" " " "	36.23
Oct. 16.	L. E. Lindsey & Co., aid to L. A. Johnson,	38.29
	D. P. Webster, aid to M. D. French,	82.00
Dec. 23.	Geo. R. Smith, " " "	17.50
1887.		
Jan. 8.	Dr. S. A. Merrill, " " "	6.25
	Dr. A. W. Abbott, " " "	15.00
Feb. 25.	Dr. N. L. True, " L. A. Johnson,	3.50
	L. E. Lindsey &. Co., aid to " "	39.30
		$306.27

TOWN NOTES PAID.

1886.		
May. 3.	Sarah A. Sanborn, note in part,	$30.00
8.	J. M. Garmon, note in full,	32.66
25.	Wm. H. Shepard, interest on F. F. B. S., two notes for one year,	16.00
	H. Wadleigh, note in part,	50.00
Aug. 25.	" " " "	20.00
Sept. 25.	C. J. Sanborn, " full,	217.38
Nov. 1.	Sarah A. Sanborn, " part,	41.00
2.	H. Wadleigh, " full,	88.21
3.	Calvin Shepard, " part,	125.00
11.	Leora L. Foster, " "	10.00
Dec. 14.	Calvin Shepard, " "	300.00
27.	" " " full,	160.11
	Wm. H. Shepard, " "	204.30

1887.				
Jan.	3.	Eliza Dow,	note in full,	$128.54
		" "	" "	122.97
	8.	J. F. Keath,	" "	241.10
	11.	T. L. Bean,	" "	166.95
		" "	" "	138.00
		J. Plumer,	" "	172.00
		N. S. Plumer,	" "	72.81
	17.	Calvin Shepard,	" "	170.65
	22.	Isaiah Maxfield,	" "	280.59
		D. H. Maxfield,	" "	276.08
Feb.	2.	John Tucker,	" "	209.36
		Joshua Laine,	" "	220.48
		Nathaniel Elsworth,	" "	142.60
		Nettie Sanborn,	" "	58.41
	3.	J. M. Sargent,	" "	321.67
	12.	S. S. Fifield,	" "	337.77
	22.	J. S. Kimball,	" "	179.14
	23.	E. G. Folsom,	" "	277.26
		Wm. I. Senter,	" "	181.25
	24.	D. W. Gale, interest on parsonage fund note,		13.50
		D. D. Maxfield, note in full,		150.11
				$5,155.90

ORDERS PAID DAMAGE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

1886.			
March	3.	C. W. Whicher, damage to sheep,	$4.00
	12.	Lizzie Lincoln, " "	10.00
			$14.00

APPROPRIATION FOR DECORATION DAY.

1886.			
June	1.	C. S. Gilman,	$25.00

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

COUNTY TAX.

1886.				
Aug.	16.	W. F. Knight, part county tax, 1886,	$400.00	
Sept.	23.	W. F. Knight, part county tax, 1886,	700.00	
Dec.	24.	W. F. Knight, balance county tax, 1886,	520.06	
				$1,620.06

STATE TAX.

1887.

Jan. 8. Solon A. Carter, state tax, 1886, $1,140.00

$2,760.06

Belmont, N. H., Feb. 26, 1887.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and find them properly vouched and correctly cast, and cash due the town, in hands of treasurer, one thousand eighty-seven dollars and thirty-two cents ($1,087.32).

REUBEN G. HOYT,
HARVEY GARDNER,
EUGENE P. HADLEY,
Auditors.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

VALUATION.

		Value.
Number of polls,	300	$30,000
Real estate, number of acres,	17,011	355,755
Number of horses,	227	13,226
" oxen,	118	5,370
" cows,	417	9,972
" other neat stock,	293	5,389
" sheep,	271	843
" hogs,	12	78
" carriages,	16	1,015
Stock in public funds,		1,000
Stock in banks and other corporations,		18,960
Money on hand, at interest, or on deposit,		17,304
Stock in trade,		9,014
Mills, factories, and other machinery,		20,650
		$488,576

APPROPRIATIONS.

For town charges,	$1,300.00	
town debt,	2,000.00	
state tax,	1,140.00	
county tax,	1,620.06	
schooling,	997.50	
memorial services,	25.00	
school-houses,	3,001.00	
repairing highways,	2,432.48	
Per cent. added,	480.08	
		$12,996.12

AMOUNT FOR SCHOOLING.

Amount voted for schooling,	$997.50	
Literary money,	122.61	
Dog tax of 1885, after paying damage to sheep,	30.00	
		$1,150.11

SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Boys,	77	
Girls,	82	
		159

Poll tax,	$2.66	
Amount of dog tax, 1886,	114.00	
Amount of unworked highway tax of 1885,	342.88	
		$459.54

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN.

We find the town indebted for outstanding orders as follows, including principal and interest:

Etta N. Bean,	$7.01	Dora A. Sargent,	$474.27
Sarah Maxfield,	316.69	H. B. Heath,	153.67
Lucinda Plumer,	249.94	Leora L. Foster,	138.01
Sally Page,	197.99	Sarah A. Sanborn,	98.23
S. C. Hill,	121.27	Sarah Piper,	356.94
L. M. Sweatt,	279.34	L. A. Willard,	365.78
L. J. Dearborn,	346.45	A. M. Fifield,	52.70
L. A. Folsom,	502.07	Hannah F. Tucker,	431.68
Laura A. Sanborn,	98.78	Eliza Dow,	215.50
Parsonage Fund,	224.97	First F. B. Society,	206.18
Etta H. Fuller,	133.69	Lydia J. Mathews,	271.15
First F. B. Society,	208.14	John H. Fifield,	79.82
H. J. Clough,	173.88	J. A. Wells,	303.12
M. M. C. Ladd,	209.32	Horace Wadleigh,	89.38
Jennie M. Small,	34.26	Samuel Lamprey,	1.43
Israel S. Thompson,	15.75	T. J. Sweatt,	7.11
Geo. W. Plumer,	3.36	Charles S. Sawyer,	2.85
Calvin Shepard,	9.94	Jeremiah S. Kimball,	12.07
C. W. Whicher,	17.74	F. A. Randlett,	27.69
C. J. Sanborn,	20.23	Newell Randlett,	11.38
E. P. Hadley,	7.75		
			$6,477.53

ASSETS.

Cash in hands of treasurer,	$1,087.32	
Due from Geo. R. Judkins estate,	57.36	
		$1,144.68
Indebtedness of town above means,		$5,332.85
Indebtedness March 1, 1886,	$9,421.45	
" " 1887,	5,332.85	
Reduction of the debt for the year,		$4,088.60

PIKE DAVIS,
S. N. JEWETT,
WILLIAM H. SHEPARD,
Selectmen of Belmont.

Belmont, Feb. 26, 1887.

We have examined the foregoing accounts, and find them properly vouched for and correctly cast.

REUBEN G. HOYT,
HARVEY GARDNER,
EUGENE P. HADLEY,
Auditors.

REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD.

To the Citizens of Belmont:

The following report of the condition of the public schools for the year ending March, 1887, is respectfully submitted:

In entering upon the discharge of our duties we were not unmindful of the increased responsibility resting upon us, growing out of the recent change in the school laws, by which the entire school interests are placed in the hands of three persons. It was easy to see that some changes from past practices were necessary to the welfare of the schools; but to make these changes successful was not an easy task. In deciding where schools should be held, when, and how much money should be appropriated to each, we have endeavored to conform to the requirements of the law, "giving to all the scholars of the town as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable." Laws of 1885, *c.* 43, *s.* 6. The changes made were in consolidation, and in appropriating the school-money.

CONSOLIDATION.

Number 8,* which had but two scholars, was united with No. 7; No. 10, with four scholars, united with No. 9; No. 11, with one scholar, No. 4 with eight scholars, and No. 6 with five scholars, were united with No. 5. The advantages gained were an average increase of two weeks in length of schools over last year, and of four weeks over the average for the last six years. It also avoided the wasteful expenditure of money in maintaining small schools. It made possible the division of the village schools, which had outgrown the limits of their school-house, thereby relieving their crowded condition, and rendering the grading more perfect. The school-house, consisting of two rooms, seats seventy scholars. The whole number of scholars reported last year was eighty-four. It will be seen that the capacity of the house was in no way suited to the school. By uniting as above mentioned, ten scholars were added, and the schools divided, making three instead of two as formerly.

* For convenience, the number of each district as it formerly existed is used.

In appropriating the school-money, it has been regarded as a common fund for school purposes, and schools have been kept in eight places, each having two terms of ten weeks, commencing April 26, and September 6. The effect of this method was to give every scholar in town an equal amount of schooling. In every case where parents have been obliged to send away from their own school-house they have had access to more weeks of school (in one case it was doubled), and in most cases to better schools than formerly, which we think ought to compensate them for their extra trouble and expense.

No one thing connected with the administration of our schools is of more importance than the selection of good teachers. Failures rarely result from lack of necessary literary attainments, but generally either from inability to control the school, or to impart instruction in such a way as to interest and impress the pupil. Teaching is a profession, and demands on the part of those who enter it special preparation. The time is past when the idea obtains with sensible people that a fair amount of muscle and pluck is all that is needed to teach school. The teacher's work requires a ready and hearty sympathy with child life,—the power to wisely control and direct the rash and impulsive natures under their care. The laws governing the development of mind should be understood as the underlying principles of all true teaching.

The supply of good teachers is always limited; and when the required number is found, the small wages which we are able to pay will not always secure their services. In making selections and assigning places we have tried to have the qualifications of the teacher adapted to the wants of the school. "The right teacher in the right place" always produces pleasing results. Our teachers have labored with fidelity and zeal. Generally speaking, parents have encouraged and assisted them, scholars have been attentive and obedient, and we believe, with a single exception, our schools during the past year have been doing good work.

Twenty-two years ago the chairman of this board, in his report, suggested that a union of districts was necessary to the best interests of the schools. Nearly every committee since then has referred to the same thing. During this time only one change has been made. If such a change was necessary then, it certainly is now, as the number of scholars in the outlying districts has decreased by one half. In order to do this, two or three school-houses must be removed. We are convinced that the best results can never be realized from our schools until some changes of this kind are made.

Whole number of scholars in the town not less than five years of age, who have attended the district schools not less

than two weeks, 172. Number of children reported by the selectmen,—males, 77; females, 82; total, 159. Number of persons between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one who cannot read and write, 3.

The following is a brief statement of the condition of each school as it appeared to us at our visits:

Dist. No. 1—*Ladd Hill.* Miss Mattie M. Bean teacher both terms. Good progress has been made. True respect and love have existed between teacher and scholars. Miss Bean labored faithfully and successfully to interest and improve the minds of those under her charge, and nothing occurred to mar or check the progress of the school. Nine of the thirteen were awarded the roll of honor certificate.—Gerald.

Dist. No. 2—*Union.* Spring term, Miss Leora L. Foster teacher. Saw the school at its commencement and close. Quite good advancement was made. Order fair. Harmony seemed to exist between teacher and scholars. On the whole, the school was a success.

Fall term, Miss Clara F. Bean teacher. This school went along nicely for the first few weeks, after which five or six of the largest scholars began to break the rules. The school board was called in four different times. We tried to reason with those making the trouble. They acknowledged their faults and promised to do better, but actually did worse. We are sorry to be obliged to say that some of the parents took sides with the scholars, and thereby, we think, increased the trouble. Four of the largest boys were dismissed from the school: two of these, for what seemed sufficient reasons, were reinstated. At this juncture a petition was presented to the school board, asking the dismission of the teacher. Two weeks before the close of the school a hearing was held, lasting two days, at the close of which we were unanimously of the opinion that the interests of all concerned would be best subserved by sustaining the teacher. The school closed with but four scholars. We fear there is an influence in this school, and behind it, which, if not promptly checked, will effect its ruin.—Gerald.

Dist. No. 3—*Jamestown.* The spring term was taught by Mr. Asa E. Gile. This being the smallest school in town, we watched its progress with special interest under the thorough instruction of Mr. Gile. A good term's work was accomplished. The eagerness and pride manifested by the scholars in their recitations were very marked. Good advancement was made in all the studies, and the reading was worthy of special mention. The pupils seemed to study the wishes of their teacher, and, when understood, it was their delight to obey them; and at our last visit we were well pleased.—Sargent.

Fall term taught by Miss Etta J. Woodard, of Sanbornton.

As her method of teaching was very similar to the former teacher's, the school was taken where Mr. Gile left it, and carried on successfully from that point. We made three calls, and perceived a steady growth and development at each. This was not the teacher's first experience with the school, and perhaps the good result was partially due to this fact.—SARGENT.

DIST. NO. 5—*Village.* Here we will mention that this district had much to contend with,—not only a division of its schools, and the annexation of Nos. 4 and 6, but a partial change of teachers; consequently it was not until the spring term was well advanced that the schools were in good running condition. Many watched for the result: it came crowned with success. Although our schools were shorter than formerly, on account of a different distribution of the funds, still we are satisfied more was accomplished than under the old system. Much interest was manifested by all, and it is evident the cause of education is gaining a larger place in the hearts of the fathers and mothers, and even the children, of the village. Making this statement, we will mention each school in brief.

Grammar. Spring and fall terms of twenty-four scholars were under the instruction of Miss May R. Moulton, of Tilton. She being a graduate of the N. H. Conference Seminary, and from the Providence State Normal School, the pupils received the benefits of both as well in the higher branches as in the common school studies. We made several calls, and a steady advancement was noticed throughout the year. The scholars seemed to appreciate their opportunities, and hard work was done by both teacher and pupils. We can only look on the two as a year's work rather than as separate terms. Miss Moulton possesses a peculiar power of imparting knowledge and interesting her scholars, that is only attained by a natural gift and by years of experience. We feel justified in pronouncing her schools a success.—SARGENT.

Intermediate. Spring and fall terms taught by Miss L. A. Eaton, a teacher whose name is a passport to success. The school numbered thirty-four scholars. As it was removed to a building not designed for a school-room, it labored somewhat at a disadvantage. However, this did not prevent the good results that have attended her schools in the past. Knowing so thoroughly their minutest details, being present so much, and keeping pace with their advancement, we think the district has just reason to look on the year's work with great satisfaction. We feel the youth of the village are greatly indebted to Miss Eaton for her kind precepts and thorough instruction.—SARGENT.

Primary. Spring and fall terms were taught by Miss E. B. Dow. This was her first experience in teaching. We could

but wait for the issue, which exceeded our expectations. The little ones immediately entered into an alliance with the teacher, and all passed on smoothly and harmoniously. She had a power of stimulating the children to study: so those entrusted to her care—thirty-seven in number—accomplished much in the twenty weeks. Aside from the regular lessons, much attention was devoted to drawing, and on examining their work one could see possibilities of future artists.—SARGENT.

DIST. No. 7—*Dudley*. First term, Miss Olive A. Bennett teacher. This school appeared pleasant and home-like, teacher firm and quiet, scholars obedient and studious, but wanting confidence. A very marked improvement was noticeable in reading. —PLUMER.

Fall term taught by Mrs. H. B. Holman. This school we have always considered one of our best. Mrs. Holman bears a fine reputation as a teacher, and it was doubly augmented by the grand success of this school. We made two visits, and were very favorably impressed at the first, only to be more so at the close; and we cannot fail to acknowledge that the scholars, as well as the teacher, were faithful to their work. Where such interest is manifested there is no concern for the result.—SARGENT.

DIST. No. 9—*Province Road*. First term taught by Miss Mabel A. Sanborn; second term by Miss Gertrude M. Sanborn. The appearance of this school under both teachers was similar. School orderly, teachers commanded the respect and confidence of pupils, and labored earnestly and faithfully for their welfare. Advancement and thoroughness satisfactory. We noticed some good specimens of map drawing.

At our last visit, although the day was stormy, some of the parents manifested their interest by their presence. The walls of the school-room were hung with pictures, giving it an air of cheerfulness and comfort in striking contrast to the raging elements without. Possibly a little more energy on the part of the teachers might have had a good effect upon the school.—PLUMER.

JOSEPH PLUMER,
F. L. GERALD,
JOHN M. SARGENT,
School Board of Belmont.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1887.

NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Number of district.	Number of the term.	Length of school in weeks.	Whole number of pupils.	Average number of pupils.	Average attendance.	Number not absent.	Wages per month.	Reading.	Spelling.	Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	Composition.	History.	Physiology.	Algebra.	Geometry.	Book-keeping.	Drawing.	Physical geography.
Mattie M. Bean	1	1	10	15	12	11	6	$20	15	15	14	10	6	8	8	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mattie M. Bean	.....	2	10	13	13	12	9	20	13	13	13	13	7	7	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leora L. Foster	2	1	10	21	19	17	2	22	22	22	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Clara F. Bean	.....	2	10	23	17	16	.....	24	23	23	6	20	8	4	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Asa E. Gile	3	1	10	14	14	12	1	24	14	14	14	10	2	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miss E. J. Woodward	.....	2	10	11	11	10	.....	22	11	11	2	10	2	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grammar.	5	1	10	27	24	23	6	30	27	27	27	25	9	27	27	....	11	2	1	2	.....	.....
May R. Moulton	.....	2	10	23	23	21	6	30	23	23	23	21	7	23	23	.....	7	3	2	1	.....	.....
Intermediate.	.....	1	10	34	31	29	7	30	34	34	34	34	23	....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Louise A. Eaton	.....	2	10	35	32	28	8	30	35	35	35	35	26	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Primary.	.....	1	10	31	26	21	1	22	31	31	.....	4	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....
Etta Belle Dow	.....	2	10	32	25	22	2	22	32	32	.....	7	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....
Olive A. Bennett	7	1	10	9	9	9	4	20	9	9	9	9	7	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Myrtie J. Holman	.....	2	10	11	10	9 5-10	4	20	11	11	10	10	9	8	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mabel A. Sanborn	9	1	10	16	15	14	1	22	16	15	9	10	8	6	6	1	....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Gertrude M. Sanborn	....	2	10	15	14	11	.....	22	14	14	10	14	9	6	9	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	.....